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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/681,303	03/15/2001	Samuel F. Liprie	INE-0044-C2	9542

23413 7590 01/16/2002

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EXAMINER

KEITH, JACK W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3641	

DATE MAILED: 01/16/2002

Paper No.

### Notice of Non-Compliant Amendment (37 CFR 1.121)

The amendment filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is considered non-compliant because it has failed to meet the requirements of 37 CFR 1.121, as amended on September 8, 2000 (see 65 Fed. Reg. 54603, Sept. 8, 2000, and 1238 O.G. 77, Sept. 19, 2000). In order for the amendment to be compliant, applicant must supply the following omissions or corrections in response to this notice.

THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE REQUIRED FOR COMPLIANCE WITH RULE 1.121 (APPLICANT NEED NOT RE-SUBMIT THE ENTIRE AMENDMENT):

- 1. A clean version of the replacement paragraph(s)/section(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(ii).
- 2. A marked up version of the replacement paragraph(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(b)(1)(iii).
- 3. A clean version of the amended claim(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(c)(1)(i).
- 4. A marked up version of the amended claim(s) is required. See 37 CFR 1.121(c)(1)(ii).

Explanation: \_\_\_\_\_

(LIE: Please provide specific details for correction to assist the applicant. For example, "the clean version of claim 6 is missing.").

For further explanation of the amendment format required by 37 FR 1.121, see MOEP § 714 and the USPTO website at <http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/dcom/ptia/pbg/sampleaf.pdf>. A condensed version of a sample amendment format is attached.

- PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT:** Unless applicant supplies the omission or correction to the preliminary amendment in compliance with revised 37 CFR 1.121 noted above within ONE MONTH of the mail date of this letter, examination on the merits may commence without entry of the originally proposed preliminary amendment. This notice is not an action under 35 U.S.C. 132, and this ONE MONTH time limit is not extendable.
- AMENDMENT AFTER NON-FINAL ACTION:** Since the above mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicants is given a TIME PERIOD of ONE MONTH or THIRTY DAYS from the mailing of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction noted above in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Legal Instruments Examiner (LIE)

## Office Action Summary

Application No.  
09/681,303

Applicant(s)

Liprie

Examiner

Jack Keith

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— The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address —

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

1)  Responsive to communication(s) filed on Nov 29, 2001

2a)  This action is FINAL. 2b)  This action is non-final.

3)  Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle* 1035 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

4)  Claim(s) 1-31 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are rejected.

7)  Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8)  Claims 1-31 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

9)  The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)  The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

11)  The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a)  approved b)  disapproved.

12)  The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

13)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

a)  All b)  Some\* c)  None of:

- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
- Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14)  Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

### Attachment(s)

15)  Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 18)  Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_

16)  Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 19)  Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

17)  Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 20)  Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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## DETAILED ACTION

### *Response to Amendment*

1. The reply filed on 11/29/2001 is not fully responsive to the prior Office action because of the following omission(s) or matter(s): Applicant's election of the single species a (nickel/titanium alloy) and b (nickel/titanium alloy) is not consistent with the restriction election requirement of Paper no. 5 section 3. For applicant's convenience section 3 a and b have been repeated below.

a. Elect the housing tube material (e.g., Nitinol, titanium/nickel alloy, etc.). **Note upon election of an alloy applicant is required to further provide the percentages of each constituent.**

b. Elect the thin-walled/neutron permeable material encapsulation material (e.g., **platinum, gold, titanium, or aluminum 1100**). Note the listed materials are those disclosed within the specification (see for example paragraph 19 of the specification). Applicant's election of nickel/titanium alloy as the encapsulation material is not considered to be supported by the specification.

Note further applicant identified claims 3 and 19 as not reading on the elected species of Paper no. 5. The election is inconsistent. It is believed that applicant is identifying between the thin-walled neutron permeable material and the encapsulation material. It appears that the thin-walled neutron permeable material and the encapsulation material are the same only broader in

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scope. If there is a difference between the thin-walled neutron permeable material and the encapsulation material applicant should state so on the record.

See 37 CFR 1.111. Since the above-mentioned reply appears to be *bona fide*, applicant is given a TIME PERIOD of **ONE (1) MONTH or THIRTY (30) DAYS** from the mailing date of this notice, whichever is longer, within which to supply the omission or correction in order to avoid abandonment. EXTENSIONS OF THIS TIME PERIOD MAY BE GRANTED UNDER 37 CFR 1.136(a).

2. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Jack Keith whose telephone number is (703) 306-5752. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:00 to 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Michael Carone, can be reached on (703) 306-4198. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 305-7687.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1113.

jwk

January 9, 2002

MICHAEL J. CARONE  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER